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OPEN TO ALL PARTIES, BUT INFLUENCED BY NONE.

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CONCLUSION *of the* ADDRESS *to the* POLITICAL COLLEGE.

I AM aware of an argument, at best only collected from our neighbouring province; and I think I have digested it so as really to stifle it in every modest man's opinion. It is advanced that Maryland, for a great while, would not come into any inspecting law. So far I say they were wise. But that finding the low price of the Virginia tobacco rising, by means of their inspecting law, they agreed to enact one themselves. Let any body consider what has been before advanced, and say whether it was not a wrong conclusion, both in Virginia and Maryland, that any rise in tobacco ought, or could, be imputed to such a cause. If it was the real cause, what has produced the present very low price in Virginia, when the very inspection law is still, and has been so long in being? But to go on. After this inspecting law had been in use in Maryland, why was it suffered to expire without being re-enacted? Perhaps a low price in the fluctuation of the commodity again explained that it did not compensate for the hardships and expence the planter had under the law been obliged to endure. A more certain deduction this for its being suffered to expire, I am persuaded, than any other that can be assigned. But then I am asked what has made them revive the law again? I answer, not the present boasted price of the commodity at home, to be sure; for that rise proves itself either to have come out of the merchants counting houses, or that it raised only by the *scent* of a revival of that law; because the very tobacco on which the price was raised, was all of that very mean trash, &c. which their public newspapers in Baltimore and elsewhere, had puffed out, by way of extract from home. But is there not another cause to be presumed why they have revived that law? Indeed, gentlemen, you know there is. Just like *other folks*, the Marylanders, frightened with what was but too common, the rising and falling of tobacco, and never considering that it is one of the depravations in this trade in particular, when things are selling cheap, to endeavour to make them still cheaper, that the trader or merchant, who sells them for another, may get the more money himself. I say the counting houses easily could, and perhaps I may demonstrate they do, sink the commodity lower by much than what the course of fluctuation ever does. But yet, as it is natural in all alarms of the kind, one person, and indeed one colony, adopts the same *wise* remedies on the same *wise* principles of another; by which means, gentlemen, your college became imitated with a mere adoration, in every unhappy measure of the kind which it had fallen upon. The man resolved to gain in trade, invents a thousand things to obstruct any discovery of himself; and can as easily tell you you sent trash, under an inspecting law, which he could not sell, as that you sent a fine commodity without such a law, which he sold well, though at a low market. A folio of these proofs may be at any time produced. But what, dear gentlemen, are you now to entertain the world or yourselves with, either as a cause of the present low price, or as a remedy for that cause? You have had your amending law many years, and some years you have made it a law to lessen the quantity by your extraordinary modifications. And yet your merchants have, it seems, advised you "to employ your slaves about any thing rather than tobacco, for it is worth nothing, and must bring you in debt:" Aye, there is the rub; and presumtively the very cause why it is ever worth nothing among such a vast world of luxurious consumers. Had these kind advisers been a little more consistent in their apologies for their low sales, and indeed not quite so barefaced as to think that we could be cajoled by their artifice in advising against their own interest, there would have been no very clear ground for the least suspicion. But inconsistency has never yet made any tolerable figure amongst the criteria of truth. What credit then can be paid to one who bids you leave off making the very thing which he lives by, nay the very thing which he sends for to you? A gull this, ye powers, indeed! In hopes that such a disinterested complexion in advice, must compassionate his *friends* into a firm persuasion of the difficulty he lay under in not being able to give better prices than what he sent in, and no doubt drive them to a mere forcing, that thing of *no value*, that thing which must bring them *in debt* again, under his disinterested care; at least that he might not lose by any dead freight in his ship, sent in to accommodate so much reciprocal friendship, supposing they should be brought in debt by what they sent him, for nobody can suppose such a merchant must be a fool to condemn his judgment and give a better price. Again. Perhaps few are so minute as I am always, when examining into such a mere excess in nature. I must therefore ask what can be the reason that, even at the time when tobacco is said to be worth nothing, we cannot get a pipe of cut and dry tobacco at a less price than from 13d. to 18d. the pound, which they actually charge in their invoices attending their very kind advice? Can it be possible that the smoker or manufacturer, who buys from them at five farthings, or less, per pound, clear of duty, as your merchant tells you, could have the impudence to make so very conscientious a gentleman pay 13 or 18d. for it, after he had manufactured it? To be sure the very enormity of such an inconsistency must speak more than any merchant, ever so disinterested, would care to explain. The best sort of this tobacco is brought in here by the honest captains, and sold much cheaper in current money; and that by a method, no merchant can be a stranger to. A quantity, perhaps about 50lbs. which the act of parliament allows to be exported, is bought, cleared of the duty by its drawback, and this sold by the manufacturer under 5d. so that a sale here, at 12d. currency, becomes a great penny. And to strengthen the observation, even 5d. to the manufacturer, who had bought at 5 farthings, as the merchant, by his sales, tells you, is a trade which no conscience, but that of a merchant, could well demand. Certain I am that no manufacturer could have demanded it of any merchant, who had sold it to him for 5 farthings, because it is as 400 is to 100, 300 per cent. at least, between the price bought at, allow it 5 farthings, and the price sold at 5d. the pound. Those who reason on pleas of the crown tell us, that it is only by insignificant trifles that we come at the discovery of great things; and I dare refer this circumstance to any ear, impartial enough to be open, to say what is convincing or what is not. But to go a little farther. Would not any body smile to hear an agent in this country for one of these kind advisers, buying tobacco for him, and from the very man to whom the principal had only neated from 37s. to 3l. the hogshead, and offering him 10s. sterling a hundred Virginia weight? Does not this man intend to make people believe that the market will rise to 5l. or more, the hogshead, the next return, or that it is worth more than he sold it for? Now, dear conclave, weigh these things in any scale of good sense, and you must agree with me, that while our exports (our tobacco) and our imports (our goods) all pass through the same counting houses, it must be impossible for things to be otherwise. I have mentioned, as one depravity in trade, that where, in the common course of fluctuation, any commodity shall not be in demand, its only natural fluctuation; the merchant reduces it still lower in his counting house, to serve his devoted purpose, gain; and for the very same reason I add, he never gives the price he sells it for, when it is in demand. Thus are we situated as to our export of our tobacco; the price is lessened, the high counting house commissions, the charges begot by fraud, and maintained by its prime minister, custom; and after this commissions for selling, otherwise called by them the petty commissions; and as to the goods sent in by them, if double shop notes for one and the same thing, from the same tradesman, one high charged, and the other low, the high to be the correspondent's charge, the low the poor tradesman's pay; if letters and tickets, in books and goods, discovering a greater charge made the correspondent, than paid the tradesman; if good private people, from 25 to 40 per. cent. cheaper, can be any proof of a counting house advance, I may dare any body to dispute it; but not to deny it; for that would be too bold a word, as to trade. Can it then be worth your while to meditate about raising the price of tobacco at home, when it must be a doubt whether you ever knew what it was? To raise it here is the only way; and that is to sell in to these counting house gentry, or let them want it, if they will not buy it; and as soon as possible to live ourselves out of debt, by even living down to the lowest distress of the times, rather than not effect this great work; because if any man, who has ever had an opportunity to do it, will but reflect on the difference he must have experienced in such a state of doubt, he must be satisfied from whence his very low prices began. But, for God's sake, never let your consultations tend in the least to compel industry to quit any employments which it must, from experience, know how to manage, and to do it with the least expence, and force it, by any kind of restriction, to pursue any other cultivation, in which both a knowledge and money must be wanting to effect any common purpose; at least in the poor worn out lands in the lower parts of the country, where there can only be manure enough found by the poor planter to raise a crop of tobacco. Adieu, with great submission.

EXPERIENCE.

Mrs. RIND,

I solicit your kindness in giving the following a place as soon as possible, which will materially oblige,

MADAM,

Your very humble servant,

A CATHOLIC CHRISTIAN.

CHARITY SUFFERETH LONG, AND IS KIND.

THE rise and multiplication of dissenters in this colony cannot give more pain to the friends of the establishment than the proceedings against them in many places must give to every generous and intelligent christian. Liberty of conscience is so indisputably a right of every human being, a right of such infinite consequence to the present peace and future felicity of mankind, that the least invasion of it calls for the the serious attention of all who wish well to their fellow creatures. This consideration prompts me to offer to the public some thoughts on the treatment given to our sectaries, which I am rather inclined to do at the present juncture, because the time approaches for the meeting of our assembly, who, I presume, will pay due regard to a matter of so much importance to multitudes, whose welfare they are bound, in honour and fidelity, to take care of. I cannot forbear adding, that as it gives me pleasure to reflect that the representatives of Virginia were the first in opposing political oppression, so I am encouraged to hope they will not be the last in abolishing religious persecution.

Without enquiring whether the toleration acts be in force here, or have been legally executed, which I take to be very questionable, or whether the act relating to the induction of ministers extends to dissenters, which might be denied, without the imputation of cavilling, or whether the penal statutes of parliament, enacted prior to the settlement of America, and not since abrogated with our concurrence, ought to be executed here, which would introduce the most horrid mischiefs and barbarities; I say, without entering on these enquiries, I shall proceed to consider whether any benefit can redound to the church of England, to the civil government, or to the dissenters themselves, from the punishment of them, on account of their doctrines and worship.

Is it the benefit of the church of England that is to be promoted by employing the civil power against dissenters? I hope the church of England does not stand in need of *carnal* weapons to make it flourish. I am sure the church of Christ does not; and if they are the same, or if the first be a part of the other, such weapons should never be seen in the hands of those who would manage her cause. The religion of Christ was introduced, and made its way in the world, by the force of well attested truth, against swords, bonds, and imprisonments: Is it to the honour of the church of England to have recourse to these *anti-christian* means of supporting herself? The church of Christ has always suffered persecution; *for every one that will live godly in Christ Jesus must suffer persecution* in some respect or other. Will not the church of England, then, be subjected to the charge of apostacy, when she begins to inflict persecution? And will not those who are persecuted think they have one strong evidence that they are on the true plan, and that their adversaries are gone over to the side of the world and the flesh, since they borrow and fight with their weapons?

Whenever violence is used where rational arguments would be more proper and successful, it implies that these are wanting; it will be so interpreted at least. Christians have reasoned thus against Mahometans; the church of England has reasoned thus against papists. She must not, then, be surprized, when she adopts their practices, to find her reasonings retorted; and if she gives dissenters the same advantages over her which she had over the church of Rome at her separation, is there not reason to apprehend they may be employed with equal industry and success?

The truth is, it may be said of the church of England, and every other christian church, that if the purity of her doctrines, the dignity of her worship, the vigour of her discipline, and the good behaviour of her members, do not uphold her, it is not to be done to any good purpose by any other means whatever; and if she has these advantages on her side, all other means, all exertions of the civil power, are superfluous.

If it be pretended that the safety of government requires that the dissenters should be proceeded against by the civil magistrate, I would desire to know whether they have ever made an attack on the constitution? Whether they have ever been detected in plotting conspirators, or stirring up rebellion? If they have, these things should be alledged against them, should be made the ground of the accusation, and the reason of their punishment. But they dislike the church, and the church is united to the government; they must therefore dislike and resist the government, because of the union. And must they be punished, too, on conjecture and suspicion? Let it not be forgotten that we are protestants, and have renounced the Romish inquisition. Admit that they do think the civil establishment of the church of England a fault in the constitution, it does not follow that they have the least intention or desire to injure the constitution. Many great men, many wise and good men, have thought ecclesiastical establishments unjust and hurtful, and yet have lived in the most quiet submission to them, and been eminent for their loyalty. Besides, can the execution of a penal law rectify their mistakes, or conciliate their affection? Will it not rather encrease their disapprobation of a government where their peace is liable to be disturbed, their possessions wasted, and their bodies imprisoned, by every wanton bigot, and every malicious enemy?

If it still be insisted, that there is a tendency in religious dissentions to popular commotions, and that dissenters, for that reason, ought to be dreaded and checked, I would say, that if it be true that there is such a tendency, it can be owing to nothing else than the civil

punishment inflicted on dissenters. Mere religion has nothing to do with the powers of this world. They are distinct in their nature, and should be distinguished in all political regulations. Whenever religion begins to disturb the public peace, and threaten danger to civil society, as it loses its nature, it ought to be changed in its name, and should be suppressed, not as religion, but sedition and riot. But when men who desire to live in peace and content are perplexed and assaulted by the civil arm, on account of their religion, not their religion, but the indiscretion of the magistrate is the cause of the danger; and this danger will always be greater or less, according to the number and principles of the sufferers. When the number is small, there is an incapacity, and when the principles are pacific and passive, there is a want of inclination, to do mischief. It may be proper to observe, that we have both these securities in our present circumstances. However, allowing that we had reason to apprehend danger from our dissenters (which I am confident we have not) I refer it to every unprejudiced man, whether a rigorous treatment of them would not be manifestly inexpedient, which must at once urge them to and furnish them with a more specious pretext for hostile projects. Disaffection in the common people to a government always arises from a *sense* of oppression. They do not examine the nature of the constitution; they do not penetrate into secret causes, nor look forward into distant consequences; but they know when they are imposed upon; they can feel their burden and their misery. The surest way, therefore, to preserve tranquility, in a free state, is to avoid grievances, which touch on the conscience the most *sensible* part; as the most eligible way to reconcile the disaffected is to take off unnecessary impositions. Violence may destroy them, but lenity may win their friendship.

Love is the strongest cement of society, and union in religious sentiments promotes love. On this consideration, a wise magistrate might desire uniformity in religion. But when divisions spring up, sectaries encrease, parties begin to be formed, it is wisdom then to inculcate mutual charity and toleration. Opposition and force irritate and inflame; forbearance softens and assuages. Whenever it happens, not only that one religious party is protected by the civil power, but that another is harrassed and persecuted, it begets pride, contempt, and cruelty, in the first, envy, hatred, and rage, in the other; passions not less injurious to private happiness than national prosperity.

But if uniformity in religion produces love and mutual attachment, and is desireable on that account, it ought to be remarked, at the same time, that this sort of connection is very slender, where there is neither opposition nor emulation. Add to this, that in universal agreement, the spirit of enquiry ceases, religion stagnates and corrupts, ignorance and profligacy of manners are established, and ecclesiastical governors assume unlawful and unjust prerogatives, which they can best maintain over ignorant and guilty consciences. On the other hand, different parties in religion, where they are all tolerated, and each protected from injury from the others, keep up emulation, enquiry and circumspection, in morals; effects surely less hurtful to christianity, and less dangerous to a free state, than uniformity, ignorance, and ecclesiastical tyranny.

As the good of the whole is the end of civil society, and should always be kept in view by the legislature, all partial grievances should be carefully avoided, and never admitted, but in cases of extreme necessity. In countries where there is an ecclesiastical establishment, and some who cannot conform, the enjoyment of their religion will cost some more than others, by reason of the double demand on them from the law and their consciences. Now it will naturally be thought hard by the non-conformists, however necessary it may appear to politicians, or however patiently it may be submitted to, that any should be compelled to give away part of their property without receiving an equivalent, and perhaps to support a scheme of religion, too, which they look upon to be subversive of the truth. This is certainly an inconvenience, if it be an unavoidable one. It ought, therefore, to be made as easy and light as possible, and not aggravated by unnecessary restrictions. If the blessings of a civil society, from the nature of its constitution, do not flow in equal measure, on all who are equally loyal, so as to procure the same degree of affection from all, policy, not to say justice, requires that the difference should be as small as will possibly consist with the welfare of the whole; for the safety of a community is most established when it is most the interest of every individual to support it, and, without dispute, it is most the interest of every individual to support it when his person, his property, and his religion, are best secured from invasion, when the laws leave him the free exercise of his private judgment, and levies no tax on the conscience which acknowledges no human jurisdiction.

It will appear still more imprudent to have penal laws against dissenters when the difficulty and tendency of executing them is considered. To give them their proper effect it must be necessary to proportion their severity, not only to different offences, but to different aggravations of the same offence. Let us attend to the consequence of this: A person is apprehended for preaching contrary to law. He alledges, in vindication of himself, the obligations of conscience, and the necessity of obeying God rather than man. This does not satisfy the magistrate, who is to execute, not to make laws. The offender must therefore be sent to gaol, where the dictates of conscience still compel him to transgress the law, even while under punishment for disobedience. This again must be deemed insult and contempt of the law, and must be treated with a higher degree of correction, which will neither cool an enthusiast, nor intimidate a real martyr. In short, perseverance must continue to heighten the crime, and provoke still higher and higher degrees of severity, till the unhappy sufferer is brought to the block, the stake, or the rack. This is the natural progress and necessary issue. For if ever the punishment stops while the offence is repeated the victory is lost, and the impotence of the law must give fresh courage to the offender. All who have observed the effect of imprisonment on the dissenters among us will be convinced of the truth of this representation.

It will probably be objected against this that penal laws compass their end by striking terror. I answer, they do so when the penalty is greater than the advantage expected from the transgression of them. In religion, this is not the case, and consequently the objection loses its force. Infinite happiness, when the mind is fixed upon it, will not be given up for any consideration whatever; nor does death itself, even the most cruel death, which is the utmost human power can inflict, bear any proportion to the eternal torments apprehended from evading it by apostacy. If any think that the difference between the presence and the absence of objects will make up for the difference between their intrinsic worth and dreadfulness, I desire they would recollect, that enthusiasm, as well as that *faith, which is the evidence of things not seen*, always diminishes the regard for present enjoyments, and transfers the affections to the invisible world.

Some may likewise object, that the present restriction of dissenters under the toleration act, as regulated by the general court, are too equitable to justify a request for the enlargement of religious privileges. In reply to this, many things might be mentioned; but instead of recounting particular inconveniencies, which must occur to almost every thinking man, I will make the two following observations: The act of toleration gives liberty to all who properly apply for it, and are ready to perform the conditions. I have never understood that there is any exception of persons, or that the courts at home have the least authority to refuse the benefit where it is duly claimed. The case, I believe, is different in this colony. The general court, if I am not misinformed, taking the authority to refuse and limit according to their own pleasure, even when the claimants are willing to submit to all the requisitions of the law. If this be true, it ought to be considered, that, however indulgent the present gentlemen in power may be, the liberty of the subject is no way secure while it depends on the will of fallible men, or a succession of fallible men. *To depend on the will of man* is, in truth, the very definition of slavery, and all whom it includes must be destitute of true liberty; though they have the good fortune to be blessed with kind masters. Nothing can give perpetuity and safety to the rights of the subjects but the establishment of them by law; and the more particular and clear the law is the greater security there is to those who live under it. Obscurity and uncertainty leave such a latitude of construction as exalts the judge almost into the seat of the legislator. The other observation to be made is, that the capacity of dissenters to submit to the requisitions of the toleration act is purely accidental, and what, I believe, will but little recommend their principles to those who are most forward in exacting their compliance. It is notorious, that there are several articles of the church generally denied by both clergy and laity. Now if it should so fall out, that a dissenting teacher should find exceptions against those very articles, and should hold the same religious sentiments with the generality of the clergy of the church, he is utterly deprived of the benefit of the law, though he must be deemed so deserving of it; unless, like most of the gentlemen of the establishment, he will, against all honesty, fidelity, and conscience, receive with his hand what he rejects with his heart. Now can any law be said to give a reasonable latitude to dissenters when it extends only to persons of one particular set of people, and may deprive multitudes of the enjoyment of their religion, who are equally attached to the civial government, equally attached to the king, who cannot be charged with the want of one civil or social virtue, and, what is still more, agree with most of the clergy in every thing which any honest man could desire, in every thing except their hypocritical, impious, and mercenary subscription! Or is it equitable that such persons should be deprived of the exercise of their functions when those of the same faith, because they have less sincerity and conscience, are protected by law, and are rewarded with an honourable and independant maintenence?

Though innumerable other arguments might be adduced in favour of toleration, I shall confine myself to the following, as of most peculiar concernment to us. In the first place, it promotes population, on which the stability and security of government so much depend. Moderation of government, of which toleration in religion makes a very considerable part, as it attaches natives, and encourages industry, so it must promote marriage by facilitating the maintenance of families, and opening a prospect of happiness for the offspring. Besides this, toleration attracts and invites foreigners, and causes an accession of arts and improvements as well as of people. It is worthy of observation, likewise, that countries, where liberty of conscience is most liberally granted, become the retreat of the most honest and conscientious emigrators, who are most sensible of its value, and most apt to be oppressed for their integrity, in adhering to their religion. The powerful and populous state of Holland, which has not less than five millions of inhabitants, has been attributed, by all impartial judges, to the beneficial influence of toleration; and the present flourishing state of Pennsylvania, and the great influx of people of all nations and religions, manifestly shew how alluring the fruits of religious liberty are to the oppressed and persecuted.

Virginia, in particular, would find her account in procuring the settlement of foreigners, as it would augment the proportion of free men, and lessen the danger and evil consequences of slavery. I leave this hint to be improved by every sagacious friend to his country. Unanimity and harmony among the colonies is indispensably necessary for the safety and property of the whole. The growing number of people, the extent of situation, difference in the forms of government, and variety of customs and opinions, must daily render such a union and harmony more difficult. These obstructions to union must likewise be when arbitrary attempts from Europe cease to compel it, and unavoidable contests and national prejudices begin to banish the sense of a community of interests. It would, therefore, be a noble precaution in each provintial legislature, to frame their laws with an eye to the good of the whole, and so as to preserve universal concord and affection. What can be more necessary in this view than tenderness towards dissenters? We must always expect to have some of them among us, who are allied, by religious profession, to many in the sister colonies, and shall we caress those at a distance as friends and brethren, and shall we be so inhospitable as to distress those who reside among ourselves? Can any thing be concieved more likely to alienate the affections of the people of the other colonies than the violation of the sacred rights of their christian brethren? Will they think us real friends to christianity when we thus renounce charity and forbearance? Will they believe us true to the cause of civil liberty when we disavow religious liberty, so indissolubly connected with it? In a word, can they take us for true friends to dissenters abroad when we shew ourselves enemies to them at home? Or can they look upon us as firm friends to America when we make laws that would injure so many of its inhabitants if they but set their feet in our government, and worship their Maker as they do at home?

In the last place, I proposed to consider whether any benefit can accrue to the dissenters themselves from the civil prosecution of them. As no one can pretend to say their bodies or estates are the better for imprisonment, or other punishment, the good of the soul only can be intended. We read in scripture, it is true, of some being given up to Satan, that their bodies might be afflicted for the saving of their souls; but to legitimate such a procedure now, it ought to be proved that the officer is the Devil, and the judge an apostle; points not so easy to be made out.

I cannot persuade myself there is need of saying much to disprove the doctrine that men are to be whipped out of heresy, or brought into the light of the gospel by the darkness of a dungeon; that their minds are to be set at liberty from error by the confinement of their bodies, and that truth and reason cannot make their way into the understanding without the illuminating arguments of violence and terror. It may be more to my purpose, perhaps, to substitute the following reflection.

The major part of the dissenters in this colony have been chiefly stigmatized with enthusiasm and fanaticism. It is not my intention to enquire whether they are innocent or culpable in this particular. Even allowing the reproach to be just, I take it to be very obvious that penal laws must be detrimental to them. All who are acquainted with these people must know that the ruined and degenerate state of human nature, and the opposition between the spirit of the world and the spirit of holiness, are doctrines held by them in the most strict sense, and that most of their other principal doctrines are grafted on these. Now I would desire every sober person to consider whether opposition and force in the least tend to eradicate such opinions, or to abate their zeal in maintaining them. The reformation of the world is the end of all religion and preaching, and it is natural for those who undertake it to proportion their zeal and diligence to their apprehension of its wickedness. Certainly then it is impolitic to attempt to suppress a religion whose fundamental article must receive confirmation from the very nature of the attempt. All violent endeavours against them cannot fail to magnify their sense of the danger and misery of their enemies, and convince them more and more of the necessity of encreasing their fervour and industry. I cannot put a conclusion to this discourse without expostulating a little with those who have been most active in promoting the prosecution of dissenters. If any of the reverend clergy are in this number, I would desire to know of you, gentlemen, where you learned this doctrine of persecution for conscience sake. Your divine master never taught it when on earth; his apostles never gave the least countenance to it, unless it was by suffering patiently under it. On the contrary, does not the meekness of your master, and gentleness of his doctrines, continually admonish you for it? Ought not the example of the apostle and primitive christians to make you ashamed of your conduct? And does not the declaration of the once persecuting, but then converted Paul, that *the weapons of your warfare are not carnal*, stand recorded against you? Call to remembrance your noble predecessors Cranmer, Latimer, Hooper, Ridley, &c. and learn of them to suffer, not to inflict persecution. Do not forget that you owe your religion and rights of conscience to the boldness of these men, in defending christian liberty against antichristian persecutors. And can you be so unjust as to deny to others the privileges purchased for all protestants with the blood of such glorious martyrs? Will you adopt principles which must condemn the founders of the church you live in, and justify those who strove to demolish it? Or will you, in one breath, renounce the right of others, to punish you for difference of judgment, and arrogate the right of punishing others for difference of judgment? If a papist ask on what authority you separate from the Roman communion, you answer, conscience directs it, and I plead the right of private judgment. If a dissenter forsake your communion, is he not entitled to the same right of private judgment? You cannot be so weak as to say *you* contend for truth and necessary reformation, but the *dissenters* are running into error and fantastic refinement; for the right of conscience consists in every man's making the distinction for himself.

If I am addressing any clergyman who have come over to the church of England from some other protestant church, I confess myself at a loss what to say to you. The inconsistency, baseness, and inhumanity, of your conduct, is beyond expression; nor is it possible to assign a palliating excuse for you. You cannot plead ignorance; for yourselves have used the right of private judgment when you changed your religion. You cannot plead the prejudices of custom and education; for you disclaimed these when you became converts to the church of England. To say the truth, there appears but too much room to suspect that you have been governed neither by ignorance nor a mistaken zeal for religion, neither by prepossession nor any thing else than a hope that the putting a stop to dissention and enquiry would enable you the more quietly to enjoy those secular emoluments which you have prostituted your consciences to obtain.

As for such laymen as display their heroism in distressing their fellow subjects on account of their opinions and practices in religion, I should be glad to know whether they intend the honour and maintenance of the laws, or the advancement of christianity. If they intend the first, I would ask why their public spirit is not equally affected at the other laws that are daily infringed? Gaming, swearing, drunkenness, and travelling on the sabbath,

are as ſtrictly forbidden by the law as preaching and praying, and, I preſume, not leſs injurious to civil ſociety.

If they pretend religion for what they do, it is natural to enquire whether they are equally conſciencious in extirpating wickedneſs and irreligion of every kind. But is there any evidence of this? Are they more concerned at the contempt of the laws of God, and more circumſpect in their chriſtian behaviour, than others around them? Do they ſhew themſelves on all occaſions the promoters of virtue and piety, and diſtinguiſh themſelves by their zeal in aboliſhing licentious cuſtoms? Let their friends and neighbours ſay whether they are faithful in reproving their offending brethren, and inculcating the meekneſs, ſobriety, and charity, enjoined by the laws of Chriſt. Let their families ſay whether they are careful in ſetting good examples at home, in worſhipping their Maker, in inſtructing their children and ſervants, and in ſtudying the ſacred ſcriptures; and let their own hearts ſay whether they are doing as they would be done by, and as becomes one human being to do by another.

I would further aſk theſe men of violence whether they are influenced in what they do by a rational approbation of the articles and diſcipline of the church? If they anſwer in the affirmative, it may be juſtly demanded why they do not employ ſome of their zeal againſt the clergy, who notoriouſly neglect and deviate from them? But if they do not cordially approve of the doctrines of the church, let every candid man determine whether they be not in fact diſſenters themſelves; and is it not egregious injuſtice and inhumanity to refuſe to others the liberty they ſecretly aſſume to themſelves?

When theſe pretended friends to the government and public religion come to be tried in ſuch a way as this, every man of judgment muſt perceive that they are either infatuated bigots, or contemners of all real goodneſs; who being deſtitute of all care of their immortal part, and inſenſible of the value of the ſacred rights of conſcience, think little of the crime and cruelty of denying them to others.

A CATHOLIC CHRISTIAN.

MRS. RIND,

Phaſe to inſert the following QUERIES *in your next gazette.*

1. WHETHER the abſolute power given by the militia law to the lieutenant of every county to appoint all the officers under him is not productive of too great influence?

2. Whether this influence does not extend to the men under theſe officers command? Whether the people can then be free, or whether they are not in ſome degree of ſlavery?

3. Whether the abſolute exerciſe of this power in the lieutenant is not the principal cauſe of that indifference and ignorance of the military diſcipline too often ſeen in many of the officers in our militia, while merit and qualification are quite diſregarded?

4. Whether the legiſlature would not more effectually remove this error if the ſeveral officers, to ſupply vacancies, or to command new companies, were to be choſen by, and in the court martials reſpectively, or the major part of them then preſent, with the ſame reaſon that magiſtrates and veſtrymen are to be choſen by a majority?

BOSTON, *April* 18.

A LETTER *from St. Croix, dated March* 14, *ſays*: "*To complete the ruin of this iſland, we have a ſtampact, which has juſt taken place, and is perhaps the moſt oppreſſive order ever impoſed, even in oppreſſive governments. Every man in common buſineſs is obliged to uſe ſtamp paper. A running account is forfeited if on common paper, and the party rendering it ſeverely fined; receipts are not valid unleſs ſtamped; paper for obligations are exceſſive high, ſome ſheets coſting* 200 *piece of eight; a ſheet for a bill of ſale is four pieces of eight, for an account four ryals. At this rate, the country will ſoon loſe all the Engliſh inhabitants; for no true Engliſhman will ever live under ſuch oppreſſion. Theſe ſtamps are not all we are to expect; a few months will convince us that the expences of that kind of paper will be trivial to other burthens and taxes we ſhall be made to pay, ſuch as a heavy poll tax on the white people. All dry goods are, and muſt, be ſtamped, and ſuch as are not muſt be forfeited; alſo an additional duty on produce is expected. Theſe are great hardſhips on the continent, as well as us here; and I do not know what way to bring our tyrants to reaſon, but by your with-holding your trade from us one year. I believe the inhabitants would ſuffer a temporary inconvenience for a laſting eſtabliſhment, on a good footing; for by a ſtagnation of trade from America, even for a few months, little or no money would go into the king's treaſury, and then our governor would ſee the dependence of this iſland was on the continent both for the means of ſuſtenance and money.*"

PHILADELPHIA, *April* 27.

By captain Hindſon, in a ſhort paſſage from Jamaica, we learn, that a few days before he ſailed captain Morgan arrived there from the Downs, who on his paſſage ſpoke the Mercury Packet, captain Sharpe, from Bengal and Madraſs for London, diſpatched home with the very important news of the city of Tanjour being taken by the Eaſt India company's troops, under the command of general Spencer, who made the king priſoner, and that the city, with the king, was agreed to be ranſomed; alſo that another province in India, taken by the company's troops, previous to the capture of Tanjour, had been diſpoſed of for 1400,000l. 600,000l. of which was then on board the ſaid packet, as a remittance to the company.

Extract of a letter from London, *dated* February 18.

"Six ſhips of war and ſeven regiments, are ordered for America with all expedition; for what purpoſe time muſt diſcover. The premier is much perplexed, on account of the behaviour of the Boſtonians; and Great Britain is determined to enforce due obedience to her laws, as the mother country. The letters ſent to Boſton by Dr. Franklin have made great noiſe here, and he has been roughly handled by the miniſtry for the ſame; but it is pretty well known, with us, that the ſaid letters were given by Mr. Whateley to the late honourable George Grenville, at whoſe death they fell into the hands of lord Temple, who gave them to the honourable Mr. Fitzherbert, and they were by that gentleman to Dr. Franklin."

WILLIAMSBURG, MAY 12.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman of character in Dumfries to his friend in this city.

"*The froſt and ſnow, on Wedneſday and Thurſday morning, have made great havock with the tobacco plants, and almoſt every thing that is growing. It is the general opinion that what plants are left the fly will deſtroy. But what is ſtill more alarming, the wheat fields are in general deſtroyed. This was not diſcovered till Friday. On Saturday morning, when this news came to Dumfries, it was not believed; but the accounts coming in from every quarter, confirming it, ſhewed ſuch a melancholy countenance in the face of every perſon, that it is more eaſily underſtood than deſcribed. I can with certainty inform you that, to appearance, our wheat on the river and creeks is greatly hurt. Judge you for the frontiers, and our northern brethren. It is reported in Dumfries that Mr. Whiting, and ſeveral of the farmers above, have opened their wheat fields for paſturage.*"

By an expreſs, juſt arrived from Fincaſtle county, we are informed, that very lately three or four ſkirmiſhes happened between the white people and the Shawaneſe Indians. We cannot affirm what occaſioned the diſpute, but are told that one of the white men had taken ſome ſmall matter from the Indians, which irritated them to arms; but were ſoon repelled by the other party, who killed eleven of them, ſeven of which they ſcalped. Another of the Indians was terribly wounded in the groin, and it was imagined, when this expreſs came away, that he could not poſſibly recover.

The Brilliant, Miller, and Martin, Clark, from London, the York, Roſe, and ——, Benſon, from Whitehaven, are arrived in York river; and the Donald, Ramſay, from Glaſgow, in James river.

☞ RALEIGH and ACADEMICUS could not poſſibly appear in this paper; but will certainly have places in our next. We ſhould alſo have complied with HON's requeſt had room permitted. We acknowledge the receipt of two or three other pieces, which have met with our approbation, and ſhall ſpeedily be attended to.

Juſt imported from London, and to be diſpoſed of by the ſubſcriber, at a low advance, for ready money only,

A NEAT and elegant aſſortment of MILLINERY, JEWELLERY, and other GOODS, which are exceeding well choſe, and in the neweſt taſte, viz. Patent, nett, and blond lace hoods, rich ſuits of ditto, puffs, whims, fancy, true Italian, and gauze caps, ditto noſegay and breaſt flowers, ſultains, egrets, fillets, baves, plumes, minionet lace, blond ditto, and thread edging, gentlemens laced ruffles, ladies tupees and French curles, blue, black, and white oſtrich feathers, riding hats, ſuitable gloves to ditto, Jacob's ladder, velvet collars, locket, crown taſte, and a great variety of other ribbands, true Italian, lace, ribband, fancy, and ſilver ſtomachers, ſilver corals and bells, plain and ſet combs, paſte buckles, bows and ſoletaires, various kinds of ſprig and paſte pins, blue agate ſet round with marcaſite, pinch wax, real garnet and mock, paſte, white wax and wax pearl necklaces and earrings, cluſter, garnet, plain gold, and marcaſite lockets and croſſes, black pins, earring and ſtay hooks, paſte ditto, gold bands, buttons, and loops, watch ſtrings, keys, ſeals, and trinkets, ſmelling bottles, tortoiſeſhell dandy prats, pocketbooks with inſtruments, fine India cotton thread, floſs, and ſewing ſilk, green ſilk purſes, needles, pins, bobbins and tapes, ſingle and double black pins, curling tongues, and hair powder, patent, ribbed, and white China hoſe, fine cotton and thread ditto, Didſbury's ſhoes, Greſham's pumps, pink, blue, and white ſattin ditto, pink, blue, and white ſattin quilts, black ruſſell ditto, beautiful wedding and French mounted fans, ſecond mourning, black, and common ditto, rich white flowered and plain luſtring, ſhot and ſtriped ditto, plain and ſtriped taffeties, India chintzes and callicoes, fine Iriſh linen, ſuperfine India dimity, black bombazeen, grained kid, lamb, ſilk gloves and mits, boys caps and feathers, chipped and cane hats, bonnets and cloaks, book and thick muſlins, cambricks, lawns, white and black gauzes, catgut and queen's nett book muſlin and lawns, needle worked aprons, black, white and coloured flowered caſting handkerchiefs, muſlin, lawn, gauze, and checked ditto, rich ſword ſuits, undreſſed dolls, very nice braſs mounted trunks, either for chariot or chaiſe; and a multiplicity of other articles, too tedious to enumerate.

M. DICKERSON.

N. B. She returns thoſe gentlemen and ladies, who have favoured her with their cuſtom, her moſt cordial thanks; particularly her good friends in the country; and as it ſhall ever be her ſtudy to give ſatisfaction, they may rely on their orders being attended to with the ſtricteſt care, by their much obliged, and very humble ſervant,

M. D.

PURSUANT to a decree of the honourable the general court will be ſold, for ready money, at Hampſhire courthouſe, on the ſecond Tueſday in June next, three tracts of LAND, of 500 acres each, in the ſaid county of Hampſhire, on George Andis's mill run, and adjoining the lands of Henry Heath, the property of the late Mr. Joſeph Watſon, deceaſed, and by him mortgaged to Mr. Garret Meade of Philadelphia, who has obtained a decree for a ſale to ſatisfy his demand. A conveyance, with ſpecial warranty, will be made the purchaſer by

The SHERIFF of HAMPSHIRE.

*** Theſe lands were formerly advertiſed in this paper for ſale, and prevented by bad weather, but will now be ſold without fail.

DUMFRIES, May 2, 1774.

THE members of the Dumfries jockey club are deſired to meet here on Saturday the 11th of June, to ſettle the time of the races. Such members as cannot conveniently attend, and want to fix them at any particular time, will pleaſe to ſignify the ſame by letter to me, and their reſpective propoſals ſhall be laid before the club.

3 RICHARD GRAHAM.

To be SOLD in Brunſwick, on the Great Creek,

SEVEN hundred and thirty acres of land, moſt part of which is good for tobacco. There are ſeveral improvements on it, as to buildings, a good orchard, &c. Any perſon inclinable to purchaſe may know the terms by applying to the ſubſcriber, on the premiſes.

JOHN HOGWOOD.

3

ALL perſons indebted to the eſtate of Richard Kelſick, deceaſed, of the borough of Norfolk, are requeſted to make immediate payment; and thoſe who have any demands againſt the ſaid eſtate, are deſired to make them known to

JOSEPH HUTCHINGS, Executor.

WHEREAS it has been reported by ſome ill diſpoſed perſon or perſons, and that in the moſt virulent and ſarcaſtic terms, which is commonly the caſe of malevolents, with a determined reſolution it ſhould reach the ears of every one, and was conſequently propagated by ſome or other of the vicious race of mortals, who delight in nothing better than backbiting their neighbours, that I the ſubſcriber hereof have been guilty of uſing too much familiarity amongſt my ſcholars, and thereby rendered them diſobedient, ſo that it could not poſſibly be expected they would profit much in coming to me: In vindication of that notorious falſity, and for the clearer proof to that ſpecies of unenlightened being, or beings, I do entreat him, or them, to repair to my ſchool room, at Mr. Robert Jackſon's, whenſoever it ſhall ſuit, and ſhould he or they be diſpoſed to believe his, or their own eyes, I can flatter myſelf to be capable of ſhewing them as well diſciplined a ſchool as any in the city of Williamſburg; and in order to prevent any the like diſturbances for the future amongſt my benevolent and kind well wiſhers, or friends, who informed me of this unjuſt charge, he or they ſhall receive as ſevere a reprimand as can be offered by his or their humble ſervant.

B. LE PETIT.

WANTED for the lighthouſe directors eight ſecond-hand ANCHORS, nearly a thouſand weight each. Any perſon having ſuch for ſale are deſired to make their terms known to the ſubſcriber in Norfolk.

t. f. BASSETT MOSELEY.

A COCK MATCH,

TO be fought on Whitſuntide Monday, at Mr. Hardyman Dancy's (or better known by the name of Eggmond's Ordinary) between the gentlemen of the upper and lower ends of Charles city. To ſhew 20 cocks for 3l. a battle, and 15l. the odd one. There will be a ball in the evening for the ladies.

ON Wedneſday the 14th of April laſt ran away from the ſubſcriber, in Weſtmoreland county, Thomas Puttrell, an indented white ſervant man, by trade a butcher, but underſtands gardening and farming, and ſays he is acquainted with the buſineſs of a bricklayer and plaiſterer. This is the third time of his running away, and when he went off before he was near two months in the neighbourhood of Richmond town, and lived with one Iſaac Parker, and probably may be in that part of the country now. In July laſt he was taken up in Bedford county. He is a trunchy well made man, of a fair complexion, has hazle eyes, brown hair, which curls in his neck, is round faced, has very white teeth, which he ſhews when he ſpeaks or grins, and ſpeaks ſharp and quick. He had the common apparel of ſervants, and he has a forged paſs, ſigned by James Moſeley, maſter of the ſchooner Nancy, diſcharged from Alexandria, and is called a native of old Nanſemond town in Virginia. There went off with the ſaid Thomas Puttrell an indented white ſervant man belonging to Thomas Attwell of Weſtmoreland, who has likewiſe a forged paſs, ſigned by the ſame James Moſeley, and is therein called John Underwood, although his right name is Edward Duberg. He is a ſlim, well made man, near ſix feet high, was a ſailor, and has been in Spain, Portugal, and France. He ſays he was brought up at Cambridge, and pretends to underſtand Latin, French, Spaniſh, Portugueſe, and Dutch. He came in the Succeſs's Increaſe, captain Curtis, into Rappahanpock, and was ſold for a ſchoolmaſter. He robbed one Mrs. Hume of about 20l. worth of wearing apparel, among which were ſome jewellery, caps, aprons, handkerchiefs, &c. which he and Puttrell ſold as they went along. The above ſervants were ſeen on their way to Glouceſter town, between York and Rappahannock, and it is ſuppoſed they will paſs for ſailors, and go to Norfolk, or make for Carolina. Whoever apprehends them, ſo as they be delivered to their maſters, ſhall have a reward of FOUR POUNDS for each, beſides what the law allows.

RICHARD LEE,
THOMAS ATTWELL.

FIVE POUNDS REWARD.

RUN away from my plantation near this place, laſt night, two ſervant men, named George and John Allen, very lately imported in the Juſtitia, conſigned to Mr. Thomas Hodge, at Leeds town. George is a likely young fellow, about 25 years of age, 5 feet 10 or 11 inches high, ſtoops much, and is remarkably round ſhouldered; had on when he went away a dark coloured bearſkin jacket and breeches, and a ſmall round hat with a black ribband and buckle. John is brother to George, ſlender made, and two inches under his ſize; had on the ſame ſort of clothes, only a pair of old ſhoes cut open at the toes. Any perſon who will apprehend the ſaid ſervants, and ſecure them ſo that I may get them, ſhall be entitled to the above reward; and all perſons are hereby forewarned, as they may probably pretend to paſs for ſailors, from carrying them out of the country.

THOMAS MONTGOMERIE.

DUMFRIES, April 25. 4

STOLEN from the ſubſcriber's door on Saturday night the 7th inſtant (May) a dark brown bay horſe, with ſaddle and bridle on, about 15 hands high, nine years old, trots and gallops, is a little touched in his wind, has a long bob tail and hanging mane, and no perceivable brand. Whoever brings the ſaid horſe to me ſhall receive TWENTY SHILLINGS reward, and FIVE POUNDS on conviction of the thief.

JOHN DRAPER.

WILLIAMSBURG, May 10, 1774.

TAKEN up, in Buckingham, a ſmall bay mare, with three white feet, has a ſmall ſtar in her forehead, grey hairs in her tail and mane, docked, but no perceivable brand, about 2 or 3 years old, about 4 feet 1 inch high, and is very gentle. Poſted, and appraiſed to 3l. 10s.

ISAAC CHASTIN.

TAKEN up, a ſmall dark iron grey mare colt, about 2 years old, has a long tail, and is branded on the near buttock, as well as I can make out, OI. Poſted, and appraiſed to 2l. 5s.

JOHN BRUIN.

FOR CHARTER,

THE ship CÆSAR, William Wetherald, master, burthen about 450 hogsheads of tobacco, now lies at Norfolk, and has made but one voyage. Apply to said master. tf GREENWOOD, RITSON, & MARSH.

*** On board of said ship is a quantity of Whitehaven COAL, of the best quality, which will be sold very cheap. Apply to Mr. Joseph Kidd, in Williamsburg.

FOR SALE AND VERY CHEAP,

A PLANTATION in good order for cropping, none of the land having been cleared above six years, with all necessary houses, quite new, together with 1500 acres of exceeding rich land, the soil of which is so good that it will bring large tobacco for five or six years without dung. I have made on this plantation above three thousand pounds of tobacco per share. The place is very healthy, and has a fine range for stock. This land lies in the lower end of Buckingham county, near to Appomattox river, on each side of Great Ducker's and Mayo creeks. Tobacco has been carried above this land near to Petersburg by water, and last month, in the dry weather, two canoe loads of wheat were carried near to Petersburg, and the canoes brought back; they were loaded but a little below this land. I make no doubt but Appomattox river will be soon cleared, and then the expence of sending wheat, tobacco, &c. will be trifling. Any person inclinable to purchase will see, by the produce of the land, that it is exceeding rich. I really do not know any better high land in the colony. This tract of land is well timbered, and has excellent water on it. I do not know a better place for a merchant mill than is on Ducker's creek. People are going much on raising wheat in these parts, and a good mill would be very advantageous to the owner. Also another tract of land of 126 acres, in Albemarle county, I believe about ten miles from the courthouse, joining Mr. James Harris and the quarters of Mr. John Winston. On this land is a small plantation, a good apple orchard, &c. The land is good, and my price so low, that I am convinced any person who viewed either of the above tracts of land would not hesitate to give the price I shall ask. Neither of these tracts are under any incumbrance whatsoever. A reasonable time of payment will be allowed.

tf ANTHONY WINSTON.

To be SOLD, on the premises, to the highest bidder, on Monday the 25th of July, pursuant to the will of William Anderson, deceased,

A TRACT of LAND containing 394 acres, on Blackwater Swamp, in Surry, within 8 or 9 miles of Cabin Point. The land is of a very good quality, and well timbered. There are no improvements, and not above two or three acres cultivated. One third of the purchase money to be paid on the day of sale, and twelve months credit will be allowed for the other two thirds, on giving bond, with approved security, to

2 The ADMINISTRATORS.

CAROLINE county, April 30, 1774.

AS I intend soon to remove to North Carolina, I shall be glad that every person who thinks he has a claim against me would make it known. Those that are indebted to me, by account, are desired to settle the same. Mr. John Taylor, of this county, will finish the suits I am engaged in; and any payments made to him for me will be allowed.

2 JOHN PENN.

RUN away on the 20th of April last, from the sloop FRIENDSHIP, William Johnston Rysam, master, lying at York town, MINGO, a stout well made black negro fellow, of a down cast look, limps on one side, Virginia born, and about 35 years old, has been used to plantation work and going by water. Whoever will deliver him to William Reynolds, esquire, at York, John Perrin, esquire, of Glocester, or the subscriber, at Norfolk, shall have THIRTY SHILLINGS reward, besides what the law allows. 3 MATTHEW PHRIPP.

RUN away from the subscriber, on the 1st instant (May) a servant man named JOHN MASON, of a dark complexion, short dark hair, about 5 feet 10 inches high, has lately had a cut over one of his eyes, supposed to be the left, and is by trade a perukemaker; had on a dark blue coat, striped waistcoat, white breeches, and pale blue stockings. Whoever secures the said servant, so that I get him again, shall receive 40s. and if delivered to me, in Norfolk, 3l. DAVID REYNOLDS.

TAKEN up, in Fincastle, a black mare, about seven years old, branded on the near shoulder A, with 4 white feet, and a blaze in her face, paces, is hipshot, and about 13 hands 3 inches high. Posted, and appraised to 7l. ‡ JAMES DAVIS.

TAKEN up, in Fincastle, a sorrel horse, 4 years old, 13 hands and an inch high, with a white mane and tail, his fore legs from the knees down almost white, and the hoofs of his fore feet twist inwards, has a star in his forehead, a small snip on his nose, branded on the near jaw T, and has a bell on, with a leather collar and double buckle. Posted, and appraised to 4l. 5s.

* THOMAS MONTGOMERY.

TAKEN up, in Lunenburg, a bay horse, about 9 years old, branded on the near buttock SH, and about 4 feet 10 inches high. Posted, and appraised to 12l. † BENJAMIN CLARKE.

TAKEN up, in Lunenburg, a small roan sorrel mare, about 4 feet 1 inch high, branded on the near shoulder and buttock O, has a large blaze in her face, her two hind feet white up to her hams, appears to be about 10 or 12 years old, with a hanging mane and switch tail. Posted, and appraised to 3l. 10s.

‡ NICHOLAS HOBSON.

THIS DAY WAS PUBLISHED,

A CANDID refutation of the heresy imputed by *Ro. C. Nicholas*, esquire, to the reverend *S. Henley*. SOLD at both printing offices. *Price* 2s. 6d

WHEREAS Mr. Kemp Plummer, and Mr. William Plummer, junior, have conveyed away ten NEGROES, belonging to the estate of major Kemp Plummer, deceased, consisting of men, women, and children, which said negroes they have no right to, this is to forewarn the public from purchasing any of them.

3t GEORGE W. PLUMMER, executor.

FINCASTLE county, to wit,

GEORGE the third, by the grace of God, of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, king, defender of the faith, &c. To the sheriff of Fincastle county, greeting: We command you that you summon Francis Willey, an infant under the age of twenty one years, son and heir of James Willey deceased, to appear before our justices of our court of our said county, at the courthouse, on the first Tuesday in next month, to answer a bill in chancery, exhibited against him by William Calhoon; and this he shall in no wise omit, under the penalty of 100l. and have then there this writ. Witness John Byrd, clerk of our said court, this 9th day of June, in the 13th year of our reign. JOHN BYRD.

FOR SALE,

A VALUABLE tract of land, lying in the lower end of Amherst county, on James river, containing upwards of 1000 acres, nearly adjoining the lands of Doctor William Cabell, running near three miles on the river, with an island adjacent, containing between 30 and 40 acres, to be sold with or without the said tract. There is a plantation hereon in good order for cropping, and sufficient for 10 or 12 hands; also a white shad fishery, and a remarkable natural fishpond, with a plenty of limestone for building. Any person inclinable to purchase may know the terms by applying to the subscriber, in Henrico, who is one of the trustees of Mr. John Howard. 3 THOMAS PROSSER.

To be SOLD, by the subscriber, at Stafford courthouse, on the 2d Monday in June next, if fair, otherwise the first fair day,

THREE tracts of land, adjoining each other, and lying in Stafford county, on Potowmack creek; on one of which is a very commodious tavern, and other necessary houses, garden, &c. within a few yards of the courthouse. The situation is very advantageous for a publican's business, and remarkable for fish and fowl. Fifteen acres of the land were laid down in timothy about four years ago, and there are near 40 acres of marsh, which might be easily reclaimed, and at a small expence. Terms will be made known on the day of sale.

5 GEORGE DENT, junior.

FOR sale, by the subscriber in Hanover town, at a low advance, for ready money, or on short credit, GERMAN OZNABRIGS, ROLLS, and several bales of RUSSIA DRILLING. 3 THOMAS SIMPSON.

WILLIAMSBURG, April 26, 1774.

THE subscriber being under a necessity of returning to England the ensuing summer, will sell off his remaining STOCK of GOODS at a low advance to a wholesale purchaser; and desires all persons indebted to him to pay off their respective balances immediately, that his affairs may be properly adjusted before his departure.

3* GEORGE PITT.

NORFOLK, April 21, 1774.

NOTICE is hereby given, that a number of vessels will be wanted this summer to bring about 6000 tons of stone from Mr. Brooke's quarry, on Rappahannock, and land the same on Cape Henry, for the lighthouse. Any person inclinable to engage in such work are desired to treat with Matthew Phripp, Paul Loyall, and Thomas Newton, junior, esquires. The directors of the lighthouse will also be glad to purchase one or two flat bottomed vessels from 80 to 120 tons burthen.

tf BASSETT MOSELEY.

RUN away from the subscriber, in Suffex, the 16th of February last, a negro man named JAMES, about 22 years of age, of a yellowish complexion, 5 feet 2 or 3 inches high; had on, and took with him, an old hat, a fearnought jacket of a purple colour, a mixed yarn jacket without sleeves, and something longer than the other, a striped Virginia cloth shirt, with six white ones, and two of blue, negro cotton breeches, with a green streak across the fore parts, a pair of old shoes, and negro cotton boots. Any person that will bring the said slave to the subscriber shall have five pounds, if taken out of the colony, and forty shillings if taken in Virginia. 3 THOMAS HUSON.

COMMITTED to the gaol of Charles City, on Saturday the 16th instant (April) a lusty negro woman, who says her name is Peggy Wilson, 5 feet 7 inches high, formerly belonged to one Richard Hunt, on Roanoke, by him sold to David Taylor, of York county, and purchased of said Taylor by one Peyton, for the use of Mr. John Tabb, in Amelia. The owner is desired to pay charges, and take her away.

3 STITH GREGORY, gaoler.

TAKEN up, in Cumberland, near the lower bridge, on Willis's creek, a bright bay mare, about 4 feet 6 inches high, supposed to be 3 or 4 years old, not docked, both hind feet white, has a few white hairs in her forehead, and branded: on the near buttock. Posted, and appraised to 9l. * DRURY WOODSON.

FOR SALE,

A VALUABLE tract of LAND in Kingston parish, Glocester county, containing 500 acres, lying on a large creek which makes out of East river, a fine place for fish and oysters; there is land cleared sufficient for six hands, an overseer's house and other out buildings; the uncleared land abounds with a great quantity of white oak and pine timber, the timber supposed, by good judges, to be worth 1000l.

* 3 WILLIAM PLUMMER.

WILLIAMSBURG, *April* 20, 1774.

BY *order of his Excellency in council, I hereby give notice to all concerned, that those officers and soldiers who served in the late war as* RANGERS, *or as part of the militia, will not, as such, be allowed, in future, any land under his Majesty's proclamation in* OCTOBER 1763; *but those only who were either in the regular service, or else in some provincial regiment.*

JOHN BLAIR, Cl. Con.

FOR SALE, and to be seen in Williamsburg, from the first of May and for some time after, the high blooded horse MASTER STEPHEN; he is young, strong, and large, has a good bottom, and runs fast. Whoever may be inclinable to know his pedigree, or to see him, may be satisfied by applying to Philip L. Lee, at his house in Williamsburg. 3

FOR SALE,

And to be ENTERED upon at CHRISTMAS next,

A VERY valuable tract of LAND in King William county, on Pamunkey river, adjoining the land of the late Mr. John Smith, of Hanover county, deceased, containing 800 acres, more or less, the soil is very rich, and exceedingly well adapted for wheat, corn, or tobacco, particularly the first and second, being low grounds; and there is a considerable quantity of high grounds. It has plenty of good pine and oak timber upon it, convenient houses, and is in good order for cropping, is about two miles from Hanover town, and very convenient to church and two mills. Any person inclinable to purchase may be shewn the land by applying to Mr. Christopher Taliaferro, or Mr. William Jones, who resides near the same, and the terms may be also known by applying to these gentlemen, or to the subscriber.

tf THOMAS JONES.

To be SOLD, to the highest bidder, at Goochland courthouse, on Monday the 20th of June, being court day,

A TRACT of rich, well timbered LAND, lying opposite to Elk Island, in Goochland county, belonging to the estate of Mr. John Smith, deceased, containing 2000 acres, which will be put up in four separate lots. Likewise a tract containing between 3 and 400 acres, lying on both sides of the Little Bird creek, near the head thereof, in the aforesaid county. Those lands having been fully described in a former advertisement renders it unnecessary here. The time of payment will be made known on the day of sale, and bonds, with good security, required of the purchasers.

9 WILLIAM ANDERSON, executor.

*** The purchasers at the different sales of the negroes and personal estate of Joseph and John Smith, deceased, are desired to take notice, that their bonds will in a very short time become payable, and that no indulgence can or will be allowed to any person. I shall constantly attend at the county courts of Henrico and Hanover, and the meeting of merchants in Williamsburg, in order to receive payment. Those who have open accounts on the books of John Smith, deceased, are once more requested to come and settle.

TAKEN up, in King and Queen county, a sorrel horse, about 4 feet 7 inches high, appears to be about 5 years old, has a snip on his nose, no brand perceivable, trots and gallops, and appraised to 12l.

* MARY ANDERSON.

The noted swift HORSE

TRISTRAM SHANDY,

(now, perhaps, the fattest horse in VIRGINIA)

STANDS at my house, in the lower end of Caroline county, and covers mares this season at 2l. 10s. good pasturage gratis, and great care taken of the mares, but will not be answerable for any that may get away. TRISTRAM SHANDY was got by Morton's Traveller, his dam by Janus, out a very fine English mare.

5 JAMES UPSHAW.

To be SOLD, together or in parcels,

THAT fertile and well timbered tract of LAND, lying in Princess Anne county, known by the name of GIBBS's WOODS, whereon are several settlements, and whereof Jeremiah Tinker, esquire, grandson of the late governor Gibbs now stands seized, under the deed of gift of his mother, the daughter and heiress of the said governor Gibbs. Persons inclining to purchase may be informed of the terms by applying to Mr. James Parker, merchant in Norfolk, or to Edward Foy, in Williamsburg, who will give an undoubted title. tf

WILLIAMSBURG, March 1, 1774.

THE *several sheriffs in arrear for his Majesty's quitrents are requested to make full payment at the ensuing* April *court; and as it is my duty to enforce a speedy collection of this revenue, it is hoped that those against whom judgments have been already obtained will attend to this notice.*

RICHARD CORBIN, D. R. G.

For WHITEHAVEN,

THE ship OLIVE, Captain William Barras, lies at Broadways, on Appomattox, will sail early in April, having three fourths of her cargo engaged, can take in about one hundred hogsheads of tobacco, on liberty of consignment. For terms apply to Mr. Bolling Starke, in Petersburg, or us at Norfolk.

GREENWOOD, RITSON, & MARSH.

KING HEROD

STANDS at Rosegill, and will cover mares at FOUR POUNDS the season. Those who send mares must send the money, otherwise they shall not be left. The valuable qualities, and the pedigree, of this horse, are sufficiently notorious.

RALPH WORMELEY, junior.

GODOLPHIN,

A FULL blooded horse, by FEARNOUGHT, out of an imported mare, will stand this season at Mr. Richard Taylor's, near Petersburg, to cover mares, at TWENTY SHILLINGS the leap, or THREE POUNDS the season, payable in October next. Those gentlemen who are inclined to send mares may be assured that the greatest care will be taken of them; but I will not be answerable for any that shall get away.

GEORGE BAYLOR.

ESSEX county, April 2, 1774.

IN consequence of the death of Mr. James Campbell of Essex, who was acting attorney for Messieurs John, William, and James M'Call, M'Call and Elliott, and M'Call, Elliott, and Snodgrass, in the business formerly under the management of Mr. William Snodgrass, we have received from his executors the books and papers of said companies, and have put them into the hands of Mr. James Gordon to collect. We therefore earnestly request all indebted to those concerns to pay off immediately, as no further indulgence can be given. Mr. James Gordon will reside in Tappahannock, and will attend Essex, Middlesex, Glocester, and King and Queen courts.

ARCHIBALD M'CALL,
6 JOHN SNODGRASS.